



# LA County Department of Health Services

## PHLN Year 2 Project Aim

### Food Insecurity AIM Statement:

We will effectively address high-priority social needs of our patients to improve clinical outcomes by linking at least 25% of patients seen in Phase 1

Primary Care sites who screen positive for food insecurity to appropriate resources by December 31, 2019.

## Measures for Success

### Process:

- Percent of total Phase 1 Site staff trained on Food Insecurity
- Percent of total Phase 1 Site nursing/social work staff trained on workflows
- Percent of patients seen in Phase 1 Sites (Primary Care) that are:
  - Screened for FI
  - Screened positive for FI
  - Referred to resources
  - Follow attempt was made

### Outcomes:

- Percent of patients who screened positive that were *linked* to resources
- Percent of patients screened and enrolled in Cal-Fresh
- Percent of patients linked to resources whose needs were met

### Balance:

- Cycle time
- Patient experience data

# Changes

## Tested Changes

- Observations conducted of local workflows for food insecurity screening and referral at Phase 1 sites.
- A “pop-up” window was developed and tested for documenting follow-up actions for positive screens.
- We are creating a “toolkit” based on the observations and testing which will include screening/referral/linkage workflows, local food resources, scripts for clinic staff, guidelines for EMR documentation, etc.

## Implemented Changes

- The Hunger Vital Sign was built in our EMR in the nursing intake under a new “Social Needs” tab.
- Food insecurity screening initiated at all Phase 1 sites using the Hunger Vital Sign.
- A report to query number of screenings performed and number of positive screens was built.
- A registry was built that lists patients with positive screens.

# Using Data for Improvement

- Workflow Observation Tool:

## **PHLN Food Insecurity Workflow Observation**

DATE/TIME:

LOCATION:

CLINIC:

OBSERVER:

### **Areas of Focus:**

1. Information and Data Systems (documentation, referral, spreadsheets, etc.):
2. Planned Care and Delivery (intake, referral, etc.):
3. Patient Engagement:
4. Community Linkages:

Social Work and/or Patient Exit Interview:

General Notes:

# Using Data for Improvement

**Instructions:** Test in Five patients who screen positive for either or both FI Screening questions.

Test/Use with the Paper AdHoc pop-up to populate Column C.

Perform Chart Review and/or patient outreach 2 weeks after positive screen to assess if patient accessed a recommended resource.

Patient	Patient Name	Patient MR #	FI Positive Screen Date	Staff Member acting on Pos Screen	Action for Positive Screen	Linked to Resource after 2 weeks?	Comments (please specify resource from Column F and/or G)

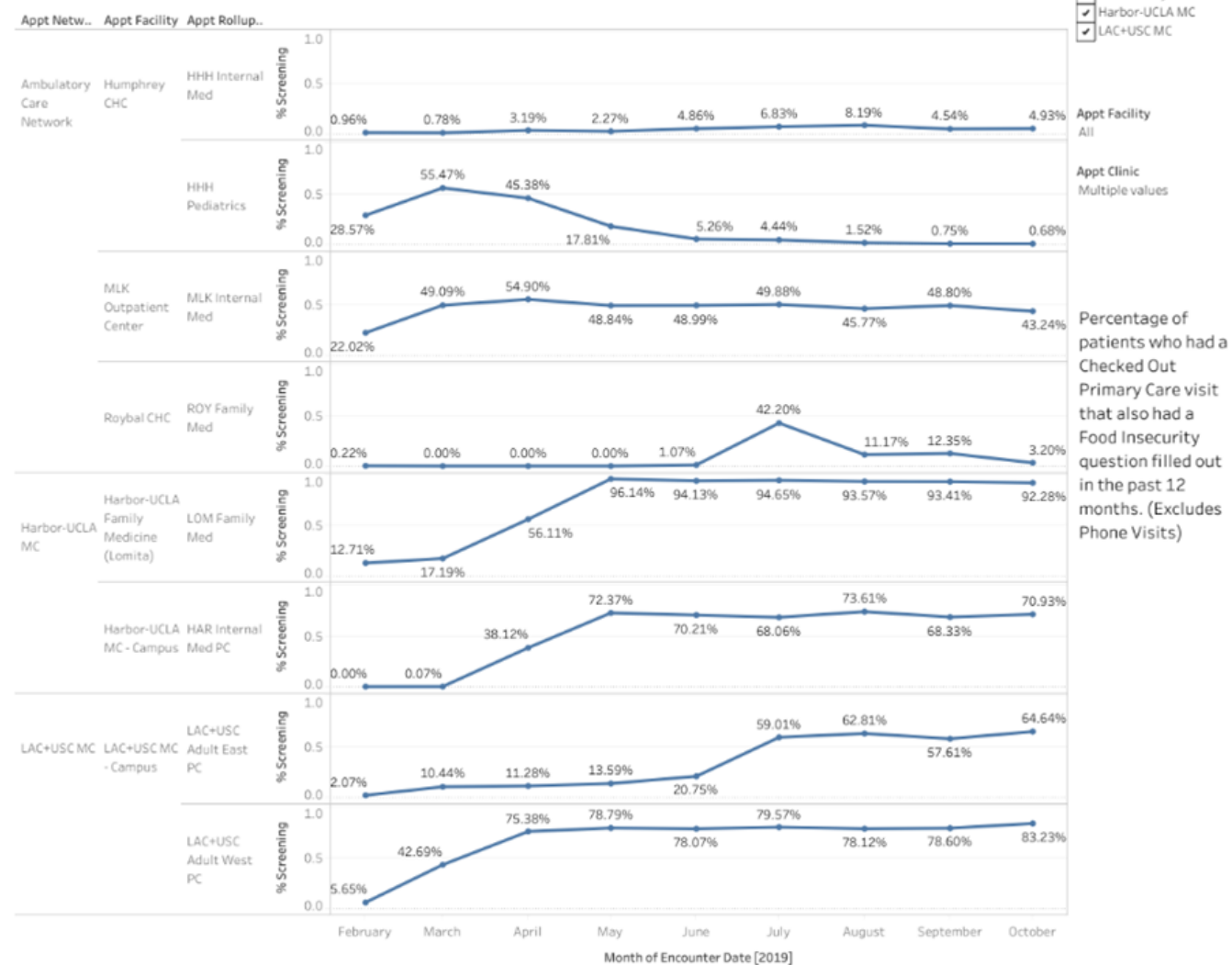
- PDSA testing on patients who screen positive for Food Insecurity

Yes	Patient/Caregiver given handout on local food pantries and/or other community food resources.
No	Patient/Caregiver given CalFresh information sheet.
	PCP and/or Care Manager notified of positive FI screening
	Patient booked with Social Work/ Specialty request to Social Work order placed in ORCHID
	Warm handoff to designated support staff performed.
	Patient referred to Wellness Center.
	Patient declines resources and/or referral for FI resources at this time.
	Other (please specify other or multiple actions in comments)

# Using Data for Improvement

- FI Screening Rates by Facility

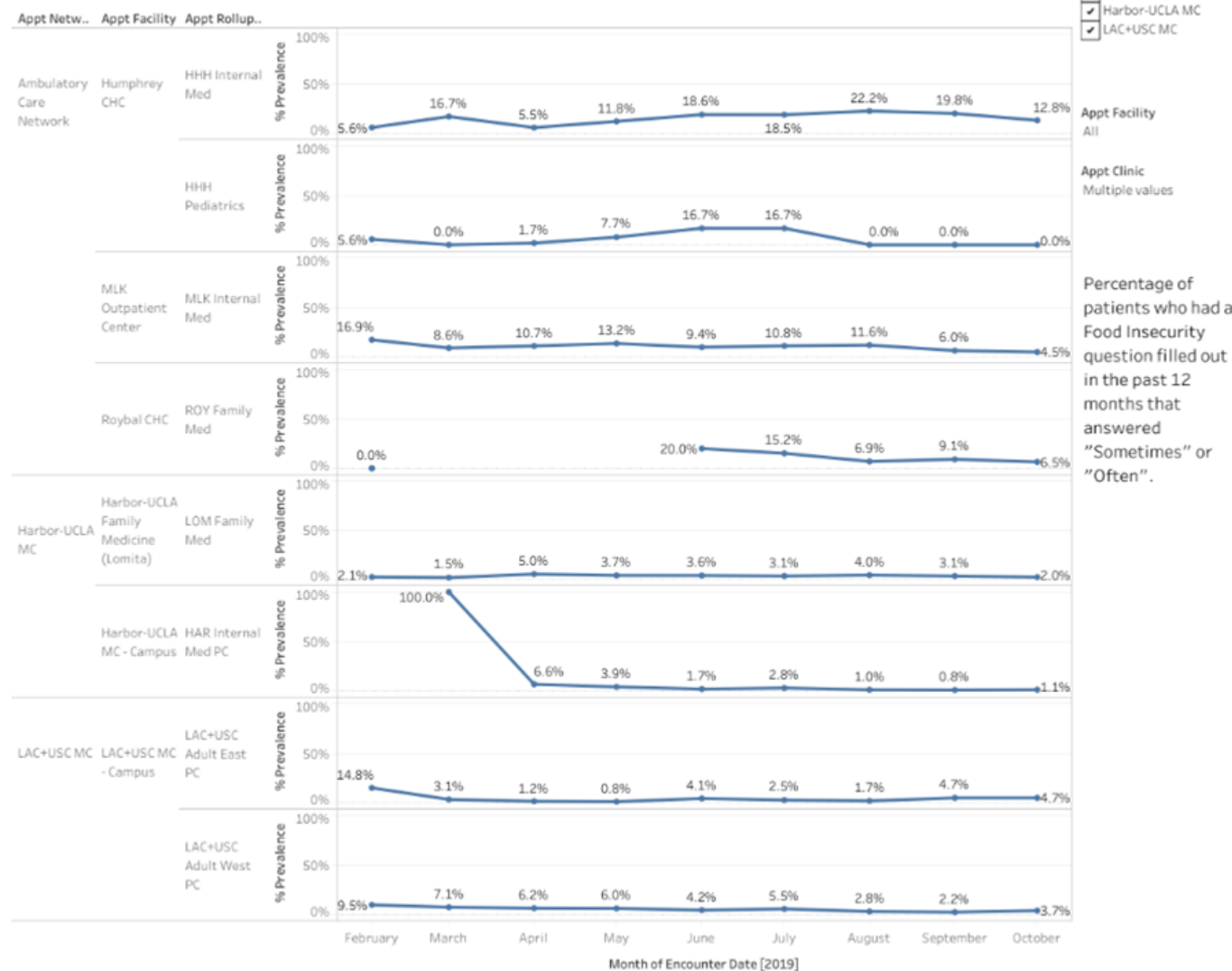
Food Insecurity Screening Rates



# Using Data for Improvement

- FI Prevalence Rates by Facility

Food Insecurity Prevalence Rates



# Strategies for Success

1

Convening leaders from different DHS facilities to develop and vet system-wide best practices

3

Intentional planning around the training required for system-wide implementation

2

Testing with frontline users

4

Ensuring the screening tools, registries, reports, etc. are built and integrated into the EMR

# Key Tools & Resources

Adult Ambulatory Quick Intake - TEST, ZZZZ ANDY

✓ | 🖨️ | 🔄 | 📄 | 📅 | 📌 | 📁 | 📧 | 📧

\*Performed on: 09/20/2019 | 1513 | PDT

- ✓ Language/Interpretation Needs
- \* Intake
  - Pain Assessment
  - Reproductive Life Questions
  - Allergies
  - Medication History & Compliance
  - Immunization Screening - Amb Adult
  - Inactivated Injectable Influenza Vaccine
  - Live Attenuated Influenza Vaccine
  - Social History
  - Ambulatory Smoking Cessation
  - TB Risk
  - Anxiety Screening
  - Depression Screening
  - Domestic Violence Screen
  - Fall Risk Screening - Ambulatory
  - Columbia Suicide Risk Assessment
  - Learning Needs
- \* Advance Care Planning
- Social Needs

### Social Needs

**Within the past 12 months, were you worried whether your food would run out before you got money to buy more?**

☐ Often true    ☐ Sometimes true    ☐ Never true

**Within the past 12 months the food you bought just didn't last and you didn't have money to get more. Was this:**

☐ Often true    ☐ Sometimes true    ☐ Never true

Hunger Vital Signs  
integrated into nursing  
intake



# Key Tools & Resources

Patient answers “Yes” to one or both Hunger vital sign Food Insecurity (FI) Screening questions -> ad hoc pops up or dithered window appears in the Intake with the following documentation options:

- ☐ Patient/Caregiver given handout on local food pantries and/or other community food resources.
- ☐ Patient/Caregiver given CalFresh information sheet.
- ☐ PCP and/or Care Manager notified of positive FI screening.
- ☐ Patient booked with Social Work/ Specialty request to Social Work order placed in ORCHID.
- ☐ Warm handoff to designated support staff performed.
- ☐ Patient referred to Wellness Center.
- ☐ Patient declines resources and/or referral for FI resources at this time.
- ☐ Other: [Free Text Field]

EMR “Pop-up” window drafted to document follow up actions for positive Hunger Vital Sign screens.

# Key Tools & Resources

AutoSave Off Patient\_Details\_Prevalence\_cross

File Home Insert Page Layout Formulas Data Review View Help Search

Clipboard Font Alignment Number Conditional Formatting

E9

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
1	Mrn			Food Insecurity Complete	Food Insecurity Sometimes/Often True	Performed Date	Primary	Primary	Pcp	Pcmh
45	0e2c	1E+08	VEN	YES	YES	8/21/2019	(213) 53	SPANISH		
145	2dd	1E+08	ALV	YES	YES	8/8/2019	(213) 21	Spanish	LAVAN	DHS-Huds
160	2fc3	1.01E+08	FRA	YES	YES	8/13/2019	(213) 53	English	MARIA	DHS-LAC+
185	3cab	1.02E+08	VEX	YES	YES	8/28/2019	(657) 26	English		
192	3db	1E+08	CAS	YES	YES	8/8/2019	(213) 50	ENGLISH	AYE-A	DHS-Hum
214	4af1	1.01E+08	LOP	YES	YES	8/14/2019	(323) 92	SPANISH		
266	5a3a	1E+08	BOR	YES	YES	8/2/2019	(323) 78	SPANISH	MARIA	DHS-LAC+
303	5f5b	1.01E+08	MEL	YES	YES	8/16/2019	(657) 26	ENGLISH	LUSINI	DHS-LAC+
330	6d4	1E+08	VEG	YES	YES	8/8/2019	(323) 60	ENGLISH	JENIC	DHS-LAC+
332	6db	1.02E+08	FON	YES	YES	8/20/2019	(323) 65	SPANISH		
347	6eb	1.02E+08	KIM	YES	YES	8/15/2019	(818) 47	ENGLISH		
354	6f80	1E+08	MOF	YES	YES	8/8/2019	(323) 31	Spanish	LUZ ZA	DHS-Hum
369	7b2e	1E+08	MAF	YES	YES	8/20/2019	(323) 70	SPANISH	EDWIN	DHS-LAC+
373	7b8e	1E+08	SIT	YES	YES	8/12/2019	(909) 80	English	EDWIN	DHS-LAC+
374	7b5	1.02E+08	VIOI	YES	YES	8/14/2019	(626) 24	English	YU HO	DHS-EI Mc
412	8a5c	1E+08	TAY	YES	YES	8/2/2019	(213) 84	English	YOON	DHS-Huds
456	8f98	1.02E+08	ALV	YES	YES	8/15/2019	(213) 27	SPANISH		
476	9c6	1.01E+08	AGU	YES	YES	8/29/2019	(323) 99	Spanish		
479	9cd1	1.01E+08	EZE	YES	YES	8/29/2019	(424) 24	IBO	MARIA	DHS-LAC+
484	9d3	1E+08	CAN	YES	YES	8/2/2019	(323) 82	ENGLISH		
563	18c4	1.01E+08	GAR	YES	YES	8/2/2019	(323) 89	SPANISH	MARIA	DHS-LAC+

Food Insecurity Registry:

List of patients who screened positive for food insecurity by month.

Includes date of screen and contact information.

# Current Challenges or Barriers

- 1 Inconsistent tracking and follow-up of FI positive screens which we are addressing through our efforts
- 2 Need to continue to promote systemwide adoption of FI screening at intake by nursing

# Next Steps

## Spreading

- Phase 2 will go-live with Food Insecurity screening in Spring 2020 utilizing the new toolkit.
- New Food Insecurity Report will be used to track monthly screening and prevalence rates for all DHS clinics.
- A standardized workflow using the registry for tracking and follow-up on positive screens will be developed.

## Sustaining

- Identify and help support sites that have low rates of screening.
- Further identify community resources and enhance our ability to link patients to these resources..
- Celebrate successes and best practices!